NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

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FROM THE EDINBURGH SCOTSMAN.

THE RAILWAY SYSTEM.

Railways are a much more recent invention than canals: and for particular purposes, such as the conveyance of coal, stone or other heavy commodities down a short inclined plane, sloping at an angle of three or four degrees, they are decidedly superior. As a means of general communication, they are cheaper in the first outlay than canals, more commodious in some respects, and adapted to a greater variety of situations—but so long as horse power was the only power employed, it may be doubted whether the balance of advantage was not in favor of canals.—We are quite satisfied however, that, the introduction of the locomotive steam power has given a decided superiority to railways. Indeed we are convinced, and we hope, by and by, to convey some share of the conviction to the minds of our readers, that the general use of railways and steam carriages, for all kinds of internal communications, opens up prospects of almost boundless improvement, and is destined perhaps, to work a greater change on the state of civil society, than even the grand discovery of navigation.

Iron railways are of two descriptions. The flat rail or tram road consists of cast iron plates about three feet long, four inches broad, and half an inch or an inch thick, with a flanch or turned up edge on the inside to guide the wheels of the carriage.—These places rest at each end on stone sleepers of three or four hundred weight, sunk into the earth, and they are joined to each other so as to form a continuous horizontal pathway. They are of course double, and the distance between the opposite rails is from 3 to 4½ feet, according to the breadth of the car or wagon to be employed. The edge rail, which is found to be superior to the tram rail, is made either of wrought or cast iron. If the latter is used, the rails are about 3 feet long, 3 or 4 inches broad, and from one to two inches thick, and they are joined at their ends by cast metal sockets attached to the sleepers. The upper edge of the rail is generally made with a convex surface, to which the wheel of the car is adapted, by a groove made somewhat wider. When wrought iron is used (which is found to be almost equally cheap with the cast metal, and greatly preferable in many respects;) the bars are made of smaller size, of a wedge shape and 12 or 18 feet long, but they are supported by sleepers at the distance of every three feet. The waggons generally used run upon four wheels of from two to three feet diameter, and carry from 20 to 50 cwt.—Four or five of these are drawn by one horse. On the dead level railway constructed by Mr John Grieven for Sir Jno. Hope, near Musselburg, which is one of the most perfect in Britain, a single horse will draw five loaded wagons, each containing 30 cwt. of coals, at the rate of four miles an hour—in all 7½ tons exclusive of the wagons, which weigh 3 tons more. Reducing the velocity to two miles an hour by Professer Leslie's rule, the horse should drag 12 tons or 15 tons including the wagons. Mr Stevenson observes, that, "an ordinary horse, upon a well constructed edge railway, on a level line of draught will work with about ten tons of goods." Mr Palmer, an English engineer, gives the following as the effect of a single horse's draught upon the different railways at 2½ miles an hour:

	Weight of load drawn, in lbs.	*Weight of the load & wagon, in lbs.*
Lanelly tram road	4,602	8,850
Surry, do.	6,750	9,000
Penrin edge rail	10,084	13,050
Cheltenham tram road	8,679	15,500
New branch of do dusty	11,765	18,300
Do. clean	14,070	21,900
Edge railways near Newcastle.	17,773	25,500

This table shows the great superiority of the edge rails. The engineer observes, too, that the vehicles are made in a very rude manner, and that were more care employed in their construction the load might be much increased.

Railways are generally made double, one for going and the other for returning. The breadth of ground required for a single railway, is from 9 to 12 feet; for a double one from 15 to 25.—The expense of a double road, including the price of the ground, may be estimated generally at from 3000*l.* to 5000*l.* per mile, or from *one half to one third* of the expense of a canal. Mr Stephenson says 'the first expense of a canal will be found to be double if not treble, the expense of a railway; such are the difficulties of passing through a well cultivated country, and of especially procuring a sufficient supply of water in manufacturing districts, that four times the expense will in most cases be nearer the mark.'—We speak here of railways of the ordinary kind for the transportation of goods; but it is probable that one destined to serve the purpose of a great national thoroughfare, for vehicles of all kinds, quick and slow, would cost at least twice as much. Even in this case, however, the original outlay would certainly not amount to more than half or a third of what would be required for a canal of such magnitude as to afford the same amount of commercial accommodation.

A railway from Glasgow to Berwick, 125 miles long projected 1810, was surveyed by Mr Telford, and estimated to cost 365,700*l.*; or 2926*l* per mile. The estimated expense of a railway from Birmingham to Liverpool, distance 104 miles, surveyed within these few months, is 350,000*l.* or 3365*l.* per mile. That of one from Crawford Canal to the Peak Forest Canal in Derbyshire, 32 miles long, is 150,000*l.* or 4,700*l.* per mile. A recent Carlisle paper states, that the expense of a railway between that city and New Castle was estimated at 252,000*l.* or 4000*l.* per mile; and that of a canal at 888,000*l.* or 14,000 per mile. A railway projected to run from Manchester to Liverpool, 33 miles has been estimated to cost 400,000*l.* which is no less than 13,000*l.* per mile; but this includes a large amount for warehouses, and locomotive engines. Lastly, a railway from Dalkeith to Edinburgh, including a branch of Fisherro harbour, 9½ miles long altogether, will cost, according to the recent estimate of John Grieven, 36,862*l.* or 3983*l.* per mile, including the expense of five locomotive and one stationary steam engine.

To the Editor of the Baltimore American.

Gentlemen—Having in my last communication given a description of the construction and form of a rail road, I shall now proceed to lay before my fellow citizens a detail of the mode in which the wagons are drawn upon its surface, together with the manner in which the load to be conveyed is disposed of.

During a great number of years, horses were alone used in England, and, indeed, in many parts of that country still continue to be, for the purpose of draught upon railways. But since the invention of moveable steam engines, they have been preferred to horses both on account of the greater power which they possess, and the saving of expense. It was formerly customary to place the whole load in one wagon, thus causing an immense weight to rest on any one point of the rail road, consequently it was necessary to make the rails of great thickness, to support the burden. To remedy this it was thought advisable to divide the load and place it on several smaller wagons instead of one larger, for instance, a wagon carrying ten tons, would be a dead weight to that amount on any given point, but by dividing the burthen, and putting it to five smaller wagons chained together, the weight on any point of the rail would only be two tons.

To illustrate the immense increase of power attending the use of railways, I will copy an extract from a statement made by the manager of the Penrhyn Slate Works, in Carnarvonshire, in a communication addressed to the Society of Arts and Sciences. After stating the length of the road to be 6½ miles, and that it was divided into five stages as he terms them, he proceeds to remark. "On this railway two horses draw twenty-four wagons, one stage six times a day and carry twenty-four tons each journey, which is 140 tons per day. This quantity used to employ 144 carts and 400 horses, so that ten horses will by means of the railway do the work of 400."

In another instance it was ascertained that an ordinary sized horse of the value of about 20*l.* sterling, or $90 could in a descent of one foot in the hundred, draw with ease upwards of 30 tons, and with great exertion 43 tons. The usual calculation, I believe, is that in a little descent or level a horse can draw 12 or 14 tons, and in an ascent in equal degree with the descent, can draw 4 tons.

Believing that a diagram of a rail way, together with the steam and other wagons upon it, would tend to render the subject more easily understood, I have caused one to be engraved. It will be observed in referring to this diagram inserted above, that the steam engine has 6 wheels, four of which, the two foremost and the two hindmost, have grooves to fit the rail like those of the wagons intended to carry the merchandise, and rest upon the smooth rail, and that the two middle which are cog wheels, play into the cogs of the rail, which are somewhat nearer to the surface of the earth than the smooth edge. The four wheels which run upon the smooth surfaces support the whole weight of the steam engine, of course the middle or cog wheels are not pressed upon, and being put into motion by the machinery of the engine, serve to propel the wagons in the same manner as the wheels of steam boats act. It may be asked whether the power of the moveable engine will be sufficient to work the load over hills; to this I answer that it is amply sufficient for ordinary ascents, but that when a hill of great height and steepness is to be surmounted, it will be necessary to have a stationary engine at the top of the eminence, which, by means of chains can draw the loaded wagons up the acclivity. Those of my fellow citizens who feel an interest in this subject, which in my estimation is of vital importance to our country generally, and to our city in particular, will have an opportunity of seeing a model of a rail way with wagons, by visiting the Exchange News Room, where one is now deposited. I shall now close this communication by giving the reference to the subjoined diagram, and shall reserve for future essays the statement of the velocity with which goods may be transported, together with the cost which will attend the formation of a rail way between Baltimore and York Haven; and also the peculiar reasons which present themselves at this time to induce us to step forward with alacrity and ensure to ourselves not only the benefits arising from the produce which descends the Susquehannah, but also the return trade of the country watered by that noble river and its branches.

CLINTON.

From the London Courier.

The publick generally are but very little aware of the uses to which rail roads are about to be applied; the following information, therefore, will, we trust, be acceptable to our readers.

Hitherto, rail roads have been used for very limited purposes, and whenever they are spoken of, it is in connexion with the Coal Pits and Stone Quarries; but they are now about to be applied for the purpose of conveying merchandize over very extended lines of country; and thus they are becoming an object of great national interest.

Rail roads, as hitherto worked by horses, possess very little, if any advantage over Canals; but rail roads, worked by the locomotive steam engine, have so decided a superiority, both as regards time and expense, that there can be no question but they will be generally adopted whenever a new line of conveyance has become necessary, either from an increase of trade, or from the exorbitant demand of canal proprietors.

By the locomotive engine, fifty tons of goods may be conveyed by a ten horse power engine on a level road, at the rate of six miles an hour and lighter weights at a proportionable increase of speed; carriages for the conveyance of passengers at the rate of 12 or 14 miles per hour. For canals it is necessary to have a dead level, but not so for rail-roads; an engine will work goods over an elevation of one eighth of an inch to the yard. Where the ascent or descent is rapid, and cannot be counteracted by digging and embankments, recourse must be had to permanent engines and inclined planes, just as recourse is had to locks for canals, but here again the rail road system has the advantage; the inclined plain causes no delay, while locking creates a great deal.

Two acts of Parliament have already been obtained, namely, the Stockton and Darlington act, and the Moreton act. On these lines, which exceed thirty miles each, it is intended to adopt the locomotive engine, and they will both be very soon roads for the conveyance of goods.

There are also three or four other rail road projected. Two years ago, several gentlemen in Liverpool and Manchester subscribed to obtain a survey of a line between those two towns. It was accomplished and found practicable.—From various causes the projection of the plan was delayed; but a few months since it was undertaken with great spirit. A deputation from both towns was appointed to inspect the rail roads and locomotive engines of the north; they inspected the Stockton and Darlington line, and inquired minutely into its costs: they witnessed the engines working on the Helton rail way, near Sunderland, and made a most favourable report. Its length is 33 miles, and the greatest ascent or descent is only 1-16th of an inch to a yard. The distance by the high roads is 36 miles, and by the canals and river 50 miles.—The shares appropriated to Liverpool and Manchester have all been disposed of. Application for an act will be soon made to Parliament. The cost is estimated at about 300,000*l.* Their engineer has also laid down a line between Birmingham and Liverpool, of which report speaks most favourably; and the Birmingham committee will also go to Parliament next session.

It is intended to meet the Peak Forest and Cromford Canal by means of a rail road; a railroad is also spoken of at Stroud, and the high Sheriff of Northumberland has convened a county meeting to invite the expediency of establishing one between New Castle and Carlisle.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

Saugus, 4th month 20, 1825.

Friend Fessenden.—As the season for planting Indian Corn is fast approaching, I hope that thou wilt permit me to make known through the medium of thy useful publication, the unfortunate result of an experiment which I made the last year, for the purpose of preventing others from doing likewise. Thou wilt doubtless recollect publishing about one year since a new method of planting Indian corn, said to be discovered and put in practice by two brothers in N. York with great success. This statement having accidentally fallen into my hands, and having no doubts of its correctness, I immediately determined to hazard an experiment. Accordingly I selected a suitable piece of ground which I ploughed and harrowed, and harrowed and ploughed, until it was in very prime tilth, then made ample drafts on the manure heap, that the corn about to be committed to the earth might not perish for lack of food. After procuring a machine and putting every thing in order, on the 14th of 5th month, I planted the corn (strictly following the directions given,) with high raised expectations, if not of making my fortune at least of bettering it. In due season that corn came up, and for a considerable time it did promise much. Some of the Friends who visited me about this time were struck with astonishment to see the marked difference between this corn and some other adjoining, planted in the "good old way." I boastingly told them it was owing to the new and improved manner of planting, which was more congenial to the habits of corn.—Friend Editor, I have some fears that thy patience will be exhausted, and yet I indulge a hope that thou wilt permit

an old friend to tell his story in his own way. In the course of 7th month, I began to have some secret misgivings of success, for the corn planted in the old way began to give evident note of ears, while on the New York corn, (I give it this title to distinguish it,) very little indication of ears could be discovered. After waiting some time and observing that the stalks were very thick, it occured to me that it might be useful to thin them out a little. I ordered one of my labourers to go to the field and cut all the stalks on which there were no shoots for ears—but, friend Editor, judge if thou canst, what was my surprise and indignation, when going to the field, I found (as far as the man had gone) at least seven eighths of my favorite New York corn prostrate on the ground. In great wrath I ordered the man to quit the field; but in justice I must say, that upon a close examination, it could not be perceived that my order had been disobeyed in any respect, and in fact, the final result was this—there were stalks in great abundance, but not a single ear of corn in perfection; and this I undertake to say will always be the result where corn is planted in this way in any of the New England states, be it as it may in New York.

Friend Editor, I am not absolutely ruined by this experiment, and the reason is, that I did not attempt it on a scale sufficiently large to ruin me. Nay, possibly it may be productive of good; I think it will at least prevent me (I wish it might others) from placing much confidence in great stories. By this experiment, I have learned that an old fashioned article called common sense, is of very great value, and if there was *more* of this article made use of, there would be a *less* number of dupes to pretended modern improvements and discoveries.

Thy friend truly. T. B.

[REMARKS BY THE EDITOR.]

The article alluded to by our correspondent was extracted from the American Farmer, and published in our paper, vol. II. page 326. It was stated in the American Farmer to be a communication from "a friend on a visit to New York." According to the account of this "friend" Messrs John and Mathew Pratt, of Eaton, Madison County, New York, in the year 1823, raised 68 bushels of Indian corn from 4 acres of land, which is at the before unheard of rate of 170 bushels to an acre. We thought the story almost too large to be entitled to credit, but as it came from a very respectable source, to wit the "American Farmer" vol. v. p. 264, and gave the names of the persons who raised the great crops, together with the name of the place in which the wonderful feat was performed (circumstances which usually indicate veracity) we were induced to republish it. It is stated that the corn was planted in drills 2 feet 9 inches apart, and there were 3 rows in each drill, and in these triple rows the corn was set "six inches apart each way." Perhaps a little more of what our correspondent denominates "an old fashioned article called common-sense" would have led us to suspect that land would be over-stocked with plants in that mode of planting Indian corn. The width between the drills was less than is commonly recommended or in use; and when in addition to this there were *three rows* inserted in each drill, and the plants but six inches apart in the rows, it would seem very probable that they would stand too near together to produce large & sound ears. The kind of corn planted by the Messrs Pratts might have been smaller than that planted by our correspondent, and therefore might be planted thicker with good effect. But if the sort was smaller than usual we cannot account for the largeness of the product; for, other things equal, we believe the larger kinds of corn will yield the most bulky, though, perhaps not the most valuable crop.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

IRRIGATION.

Andover, April 26, 1825.

Mr Fessenden.—In the New England Farmer of August 21, 1824, your correspondent 'H.' requests information on the subject of raising water by windmills, "for irrigation and other economical purposes;" and in the Farmer for January 28, 1825, Friend Kaighn, of Philadelphia, has requested further information. As this has not yet been complied with, I now, with some reluctance, offer something, which may serve to elicit more.

As to the *practicability* of applying wind to the purpose of raising water, it is too obvious to admit of doubt. If we apply wind for this purpose, we may expect some advantages, as well as some disadvantages. One advantage in using wind is, that this element costs us nothing—and the machinery is simple, and we should infer from this that the expense of building is proportionally less.

If we apply *steam*, the machinery is multiplied and expense is added, and steam cannot be generated without continual expense.

If we apply *animal power*, the machinery is not diminished, and animals will not labor without food.

The disadvantages are—the wind is not at all times at our command—and the machinery is liable to decay.

The following is the description of a windmill which I think will answer the best purpose. Let there be six vanes fixed on the wind-shaft or axis, whose outer extremities shall describe a circle, the radius of which shall be 24 feet. These should be 4 feet broad, and the length 8 feet. They should be so placed on the windshaft, that at 4 feet from the centre of the same they should make an angle of 60° with the windshaft, and at the outer extremity they should make an angle of 75°. Let there be fixed on the windshaft a bevel-wheel, which shall work into another bevel-wheel of $\frac{1}{3}$ greater diameter than the one fixed on the windshaft. This last named wheel must be placed on a vertical shaft in the centre of the frame which supports the vanes and windshaft. The wheel placed on the vertical shaft or axis must be fixed with the face upwards. Attached to the underside of this wheel must be two wipers made in a spiral form, which shall be so deep as to depress the end of the lever 12 inches. The pump-rod must be attached to the other end, which must be 5 feet from the fulcrum to the end, and from the fulcrum to the other end (on which the wipers must work) must be 4 feet. On this end should be placed a friction wheel, for by this we gain power by removing friction. The whole of this machinery must rest upon a frame sufficiently strong to withstand the force of the wind.

The above is calculated to raise water 40 ft. with a pump of $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches bore where the bucket works, and this should be 22 feet below the top of the pump, for we raise water with less power when it is above the bucket, than when below.

The expense of erecting the above-mentioned mill, would probably be from 2 to 300 dolls.

Yours, respectfully,

PHINEAS STEVENS.

RURAL ECONOMY.

TO RENDER BOTTLED BEER RIPE.

The following method is employed in Paris by some venders of bottled beer, to render it what they term ripe.—It is merely by adding to each bottle 3 or 4 drops of yeast, and a lump of sugar, of the size of a large nutmeg. In the course of twenty-four hours, by this addition, stale or flat beer is rendered most agreeably brisk. In consequence of the fermentative process that takes place in it, a small deposite follows, and on this account the bottles should be kept in an erect position. By this means white wine may likewise be rendered brisk.

TO KEEP POTATOES FOR SEA PROVISIONS.

Slice them and bake them slowly and they will keep and form good flour for years.

TO KEEP OFF OR DRIVE AWAY BED BUGS.

Make a strong decoction of red pepper, when ripe, and apply it with a common paint brush to the joints of the bedstead, wainscotting, &c. where these odious insects usually resort, and it will speedily kill, or expel them.—*Am. Far.*

TO BOTTLE TABLE BEER.

As soon as a cask of table beer is received into the house, it is drawn off into quart *stone* bottles, with a lump of white sugar in each, and securely corked. In three days it becomes brisk, is equal in strength to table ale, remarkably pleasant, very wholesome, and will keep many months.

CHINESE METHOD OF MENDING CHINA.

Boil a piece of white flint glass in river water for five or six minutes, beat it to a fine powder, and grind it well with the white of an egg, and it joins the china without rivetting, so that no art can break it again in the same place.—Observe, the composition must be ground extremely fine on a painter's slab.—*Mech. Magazine.*

TO KEEP HOPS FOR FUTURE USE.

Hops lose all their fine flavour by exposure to the air and damp. They should be kept in a dry close place, and lightly packed.

DR BOERHAAVE'S RULES.

This great man left as a legacy to the world, the following simple and unerring directions for preserving health; they contained the sum and substance of his vast professional knowledge during a long and useful life:—"*Keep the feet warm; the head cool; and the body open.*"—If these were generally attended to, the physician's aid would seldom be required.

EYE STONE.

It is said that a grain of flax seed possesses all the valuable properties of the eye stone.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

ON IMPROVING THE NATIVE BREED OF NEW ENGLAND CATTLE.

No. III.

In the last number of the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository and Journal, [No. 3, vol. 8.] are some communications from JOHN HARE POWEL, Esq. to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society, from whose Memoirs they were extracted. The subject of the communications is the various breeds of neat cattle. The Editors of the Repository, in introducing those papers, say—"We give no opinion as to the soundness of Mr POWEL's opinion; we mean to hold an even balance between all the contending parties. This, however, we owe to Mr POWEL, to say, in zeal, public spirit, industry, and experience, he yields to no man."—I have the pleasure of knowing Mr POWEL; and have been gratified in seeing his signal display of talent and energy in applying his ample means to improve the agriculture of our country.

Before I saw Mr POWEL's letter in the Repository, I had told the Editor of the New England Farmer that I would give him my thoughts on the subject of improving the native breed of New England cattle. In relation to Mr POWEL's views, so far as on this subject they differ from mine, I will offer such observations as appear to me necessary to support the latter.

It was Mr POWEL's object "to establish, by selections from various European works, certain positions which had been assumed by him, in some of his late communications" to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society. Those positions must have related to "Farm-Stock;" that being the subject of his letters introduced into the Repository. And he justly remarks, "that none is more interesting, and none more important, to the husbandmen and landholders of the eastern, middle, and western states, than that which indirectly involves the application of three fourths of the product of their labour and of their land;" that is, "for the nourishment of their neat cattle, horses, sheep and swine."—"I think it is evident, (continues Mr POWEL) that to our population at least,* it is worth some effort to ascertain, whether experience has established, in the country [England] where they are best known, and by the standard which every man can best comprehend, the superiority of one race of neat cattle over every other, either original or *improved*. If (says Mr POWEL) it shall appear that by the multiplication of this race, "the produce of beef, upon a given extent of land, would be nearly doubled"—the quantity of butter increased—the facility of procuring powerful oxen for draught not lessened—and without that the amount of offal would be diminished—the weight of the flesh and fat would be carried upon the proper parts; I trust it will not be contended that the discussion is futile, or the premium absurd, which shall have brought this race into view."

By "the *standard* which every man can best comprehend," for determining "the superiority of one race of neat cattle over every other,"—I understood Mr POWEL to mean the *prices* at which they have been sold in England and he accordingly states them.—He says—"It appears by BAILEY's survey of Durham, that at COLLING's sale in 1810, seventeen cows sold for £2,802 9*s.* sterling; [averaging $732. per cow, at 444 cents the pound sterling] eleven bulls for 2361*l.*—[averaging $953 per bull]—that Major Rudd paid 400 guineas for Lady of nine years—for Lily 400 guineas—for Peeress 170 guineas—for Petrarch 375 guineas—that Mr Wetherill & Co. paid for Comet of 6 years 1000 guineas[$4662,] Mr CHAMPION and Col. MELLISH have since paid 450 guineas for the services of Charles during two years." Mr POWEL continues—"a regular record is kept in the Herd Book, of the Pedigrees of the animals of pure blood. Although 140 breeders—130 bulls and nearly 3000 heifers and cows, are enumerated in this volume, it will be seen, by Major RUDD's letter and prices, which I have paid, that their cost continues as high as it was ten years since."

After some other details, and mentioning the opinions of some American gentlemen of the good qualities and great value of the improved short horned breed, Mr POWEL introduces Major RUDD's letter concerning this improved race.—Major RUDD says—to Mr CHARLES COLLING the world is indebted for the breed of cattle called the Improved Short-Horned,"—of which he (Major RUDD) became the purchaser, in 1810; certainly, I am warranted in saying, with the principal, if not the only view, of becoming what Mr COLLING had been, a BREEDER OF CATTLE, *for the* PROFIT *to be derived from the Sales.* Accordingly he informs Mr POWEL, "that he has never sold any bull, cow, or heifer, of the genuine breed, for less than one hundred pounds sterling per head. For this price he would deliver bulls or heifers at Liverpool [when to be shipped for the United States] warranted of the best pedigree, and of the most approved form, handling and hair." 100*l.* sterling are equal to 444 dollars—or $450 at 4*s.* 6*d.* the dollar.

After stating the prodigious prices given for COLLING's stock, Mr POWEL remarks that, "if the cost were regulated by the caprice of men of fortune, it might be alleged that *fashion* gave to them a fictitious value; but as the *practical farmers* of England sanction it by their purchases, and support it by their demands, it must be inferred, that after a trial of *fourteen years*, the animals possess the merit which has been claimed."—The *professed Breeders* are doubtless *practical farmers*—as was Mr BAKEWELL, who was indeed a most extraordinary one, as the quantity of stock kept on his farm would show. But certainly no *mere farmer* in England can find his account in giving 450 dollars a-piece for cows and heifers, to compose his dairy. The average annual product of cows in England, may be six or seven pounds sterling per cow. When YOUNG wrote his Tours, it was only 5*l.* or 6*l.*—a dairy of 30 cows (though there are many larger, there are many of a less number) at 7*l.* each, 210*l.*—a little more than the cost of two cows of the improved short-horns. And as the English dairy farmers seldom keep their cows after they are ten years old—oftener turning them off to fatten, or selling them to graziers, when past eight—thus keeping them in milk six or seven years—each cow, in that time, would yield the farmer about fifty pounds ($222) in butter, cheese and veal; to which add seventeen pounds (a high price) for the cow, either fattened or sold to a grazier, and he would receive about two thirds of the prime cost of the cow, six or seven years before.—It is true, that mere farmers will never think of making up their dairies of such high priced cows; while the more able may purchase a heifer or two to be put to the high bred bulls, to lay the foundation of a full dairy of them, in the end; or by an experiment with one or two, to ascertain their intrinsic value.—Upon the whole, it evidently appears, that *Professed Breeders* must be almost exclusively the purchasers of such high priced stock as that of COLLING's and a few other eminent Breeders. And until this breed of cattle shall be extensively multiplied—and in the 14 years since the great improvement is stated to have taken place the individuals cannot be very numerous—they may continue to bring high prices.

The purchaser of a bull at a thousand pounds, by putting him to ten cows of the same race, may in two years at Major RUDD's prices, by the sale of his offspring—ten heifers and bulls—have his 1000*l.* replaced. But a good bull may in two years be the sire of fifty such heifers and bulls and of fifty calves; or be let, like Charles, to such breeders as CHAMPION and MELLISH.

The great leader BAKEWELL, by the superior management of his farm; but especially by his immense profits, arising from his improved stock, chiefly cattle and sheep, must have amassed a fortune; and his genius and industry entitled him to it. His first improved rams were let at very low prices—16 shillings each for a season. He proceeded in his improvements until he could let his rams for the enormous sum of 300 guineas each, for a single season. In 1789 he let three rams for 1200 guineas [$5594]; and his whole letting that year brought him full 3000 guineas—equal to $13,986.*

"The high prices (says MARSHALL) are not given by graziers, for the purpose of getting wedders as grazing stock; but by *Ram-Breeders* for the purpose of *getting Rams* to be let to graziers; the HIGHEST being given by the PRINCIPAL BREEDERS ONLY; not for the purpose of getting rams to be let to graziers as WEDDER-GETTERS; but for that of getting rams to be let again, as RAM-GETTERS to inferior tup-men"—or breeders of sheep.

Again MARSHALL says—"With respect to the *very high prices*, they are given by a FEW FIRST RATE BREEDERS, who are playing a high game—running a hard race—for the PRIDE and PROFIT of being leader, when BAKEWELL *is not*." BAKEWELL, indeed, *is not*; but doubtless the same passions continue to actuate the "few *first-rate breeders*;" and their history, in regard to keep, may, I presume, fairly explain their characters as breeders of cattle. These first rate breeders who keep bulls & rams *to let*, use some art *to make them up* to *show* to advantage *at the time of letting*, particularly in making them excessively fat; for fat covers or conceals defects. Afterwards they are reduced to a plight which fits them for service.†

The common price of a ram let to a grazier, when MARSHALL wrote, was five or six guineas for a season; the highest ten guineas; for the sole purpose of getting grazing stock. And as BAKEWELL's improved breed would get as fat at two years old as other common breeds at three,

* This letter of Mr Powel's is addressed to the President of the *Pennsylvania* Agricultural Society.

* Marshall's Rural Economy of the Midland Counties, vol. i. page 384. † Same volume, p. 388.

the grazier would be amply reimbursed for the extra expense of the ram. Used in BAKEWELL's way (a single leap only being allowed) one ram would serve a hundred ewes, and at ten pounds for his hire, the extra cost of each of his offspring would be but two shillings; when he would sell at two years and a half old, for ten or 15 shillings more than other sheep, of the same natural size, and going in the same pasture.

Bakewell improved a breed of horses and of swine. Fifty or sixty years ago, he let his Stallions at from 25 to 150 guineas the season.

The improved short-horned breed, from their disposition to fatten kindly, and at an early age, must be peculiarly valuable as grazing or beef cattle, in Pennsylvania and other states where horses chiefly, and almost exclusively, are employed in farm labour, and where steers and oxen are raised almost solely for beef. But I have not yet obtained information of the superior character of the few cows of this breed, in the United States, for producing butter. Their milk is said to be rich; but its actual product from the churn and the cheese press would be more satisfactory. I am desirous of seeing these tests of its quality.—The case of the cow sold by Mr WELLES to Mr QUINCY, justifies my caution on this head. Mr WELLES supposed her milk to be rich—and that on the same food she would yield as much butter as the Oakes cow; yet, though so much larger an animal, Mr QUINCY's careful experiment proved her inferiority, even to the vast difference of one half.

EZEKIEL H. DERBY Esq. has favored me with an account of a heifer of the improved short-horn breed. She and a bull of the same breed, presents from Admiral Sir ISAAC COFFIN to the Agricultural Society of Massachusetts, were, by the Trustees, committed to the care of Mr DERBY in Salem, to give to the Farmers of Essex an opportunity of putting their best cows to the bull. The heifer, on the 28th of January last, dropped her first calf—a female. A fortnight after, she gave ten quarts of milk in a day, besides what the calf sucked; and at six weeks from her calving, 8 quarts were taken from her; being so much more than Mr DERBY thought necessary to the health and useful thriving of the calf; which is well grown, and in a good condition. Her milk is pronounced to be rich; but has not yet been brought to the only certain test. Her food has been partly English and partly salt-marsh hay,* with four quarts of corn and cob-meal mixed with chaffed hay, and half a bushel of the common flat or English turnips, daily.

Major RUDD says of the improved short-horns, that "if this breed were every where disseminated, the produce of beef, on a given extent of land, would be nearly doubled; that their milk is richer in quality, but less in quantity than of the old breed; and that an improved short-horned cow will yield about eight or nine lbs. of butter per week, avoirdupoise weight." He says also, that in form and *handling*, the improved short-horns are a perfect contrast to the old breed; and he *believes* they consume less food: and that "in countries where *beef is in great demand*, the improved short-horns are beyond all doubt the best."

Mr POWEL controverts an opinion which has been expressed, that the cattle of Massachusetts are of the Devon breed. "I would contend (he says) that the finest cattle of Massachusetts are mixed with families of which Mr GORE, Mr STUART and Mr VAUGHAN imported the sires. Lancaster, Leicester, and Hereford blood can be traced by a practised eye, in many of the best working oxen exhibited at the New England Agricultural shows."

Although satisfied that the blood of those imported cattle of GORE, STUART and VAUGHAN, was here of very limited extent, I have made inquiry, to ascertain the facts. From Mr GORE I have received the following information.

"The bull of English extraction, owned by me about the years of 1794, 5, 6 & 7, was by a cow imported from England by Mr CHARLES VAUGHAN. The bull was dropped from the cow on her passage from England, and given to me by that gentleman, shortly after the arrival of the cow in America. He proved to to be a remarkably fine animal, large, and of excellent form. His proportions were all good. According to my recollection, he was as handsome and large as any bull I have since seen.—I gave to the man who superintended my farm, all he could obtain for his services. *I have no belief that many cows were brought to him.* During my absence in Europe, he became unruly; and about the year 1798, my agent sold him, and, as I understood, to a man living in Vermont."

"The observation expressed to me by Mr JAY, to which you refer, was shortly after his return from Great Britain [which was in 1795.] He remarked, that the cattle which he had generally met in New England, appeared to be of the Devonshire breed, that he had seen in Great Britain."

Now although I suppose the Devon race of cattle to be *predominant* in New England, I doubt not that some of other breeds were early introduced by our ancestors; some Herefords unquestionably, whose descendants are yet distingnished by their *white faces*. The following concludes Mr MARSHALL's minute description of a good Herefordshire ox: "The coat neatly haired, bright, and silky; its colour middle red; with a "bald face;" the last being esteemed characteristic of the true Hereford breed."* By "bald face" (marked by MARSHALL with commas, as a local expression) *white faces* are doubtless intended. White faced cattle, of our native stock, are now often to be seen; but I think less frequently than in the early part of my life.

Of Mr STUART's animals, the following is his own account, as verbally stated to a friend from whom I have received it.—That he sent to England for two heifers and a bull of the BUKEWELL breed: that they were shipped—but that the bull and one of the heifers were left on the passage; that the other arrived at Philadelphia, when he lived at Germantown—where, a few months after, she brought forth a fine bull calf; that shortly afterwards, being determined to remove to Boston, he sent thither the cow and her calf, where they were delivered to Mr JOSEPH RUSSELL, who sent them to his island below Boston, where they for some time remained and propagated the breed, [but certainly within narrow limits especially as they were kept on an island] that they were not large animals, but easily made fat, and on coarse fodder; that the cow was not a great milker, seldom giving more than six quarts [at a milking, must be understood,] under the most favourable circumstances; but the milk was rich: that they were of a liver colour, spotted with white; some of the calves white, with liver coloured ears: and that he sold them to Mr BOWDOIN, who sent them to Nashaun one of the Elizabeth islands (his property) where both of them died; poisoned, as Mr STUART thinks, by eating hemlock plants, in the Spring of the year.

From this history of the GORE, STUART, and VAUGHAN imported cattle, it may be possible to trace some of their progeny in the neighbourhood of Boston, perhaps a few in Vermont, and a very small number in Maine, if Mr VAUGHAN took his cow into that district: but on the New England Stock at large, it is certain no effect could have been produced, by any or all of them.

From the writings of YOUNG, MARSHALL, and others, it appears that farmers in England entertained different opinions concerning the several breeds of cattle; some preferring the long horned, especially BAKEWELL's highly improved race; while others chose the improved Holderness, or short-horned. Others again, preferred the native breeds of their respective districts. So in our own country, opinions vary. Mr POWEL disapproves of the lately imported Devons* and their offspring. Of these I can say nothing, having seen none of them. But in some parts of England there are Devonshire cattle which are highly prized. "It has been found by a person in the vicinity of the Devizes, Wiltshire, who, as well as his father before him, has been in the habit of letting cows to men who supply the town with milk; and who buys all his cows, and consequently can have no partiality for any particular sort, *having at different times had all kinds;* that the milkmen have uniformly, for the last thirty years, given the preference to the Devonshire sort, at the same price, as being, on the whole, the best milkers."†

T. PICKERING.

English Hay is a term I do not recollect to have met with out of New England. By it is meant that mixture of grasses which constitute good upland meadow, such as our ancestors knew in England. They used the term to distinguish this upland hay from the wild, coarse, wet-meadow and salt-marsh hay of the country.

* Rural Economy of Gloucestershire, Vol. I. p. 247.

* I believe these were a present to a gentleman in Maryland, from Mr Coke of Norfolk in England.

† Rees' Cyclopedia—Art. *Dairying*.

From the Middletown Sentinel.

POTATOES.

As it is about time to begin to think about planting, a few remarks on this valuable plant, may not be inapplicable.

Potatoes were first found in America. There are many and various kinds of this root; some prefer one, some another kind; but, all things considered, I give that kind, generally called the "*Orange Potatoe*," my decided preference, because they produce well, and are altogether the best for cultivating purposes. To raise good potatoes of this kind, (and in fact all other kinds,) it is an important requisite that they should be planted on *rich* land; or else a shovel full or two of manure should be thrown into the hills when planted. I usually plant them about even with the surface of the ground, planting 10 or 12 bushels to the acre, sometimes planting them in hills about four rows to a rod each way with

two potatoes in a hill as large as hen's eggs or one as large as a goose's egg; at other times in continued rows, dropping potatoes as large as hen's eggs about a foot apart. I do not think it best to plant the very largest potatoes, because a large one is more than is needed for a hill, and I do not think it so good a plan to cut them as it is to plant smaller ones, and moreover they will produce more when planted whole than what they will when cut.

It is well to put a little Gypsum, or Plaster of Paris, on potatoes at the time of planting, or after the shoots have got out of ground, or both. About the first of May I consider as the best time to plant; but a month earlier or later will answer.

Potatoes are not only an excellent,but an indispensable article in the eye of a good house-wife; and they are also good for fattening cattle. To fat cattle with potatoes, they should be given to them at least twice in 24 hours, without water, as they will fat faster without than with it. I use a machine to cut potatoes for cattle and sheep; but if, in giving them whole, an ox or a cow should get choked, it is easy to push it down into the stomach, or take it out if within your reach. To push it down, take a flexible rod, 4 or 5 feet long, and then a rind of pork with a little fat on it, letting it project over the end about half an inch; by so doing it will not be apt to pass by the potatoe, and it can easily be pushed into the stomach. If it should go hard, it will be necessary to use more force; for if the stick goes into the stomach there will be no danger. The same stick can also be used when a creature is hoven. A FARMER.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 29, 1825.

The testimony in favour of our efforts in attempting to make the New England Farmer worthy of the approbation of practical and scientific Agriculturists, contained in the following extract of a letter from JOHN PRESCOTT, Esq. of Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, is received with gratitude; and will stimulate us to future exertions to merit and retain the good opinion so kindly expressed by honourable and adequate judges.

Cornwallis, (N. S.) April 8, 1825.

"At a Quarterly Meeting of the *King's County Union Agricultural Society*, holden in this place, on Wednesday the 6th inst. it was resolved—'That the Society, entertaining a high opinion of the NEW ENGLAND FARMER, as an agricultural paper, do subscribe for it,—and that Mr JOHN PRESCOTT be requested to write on for the same from the commencement of the first volume.'"

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

The Cattle Show, Ploughing Match, and Exhibition of Manufactures will take place at Worcester, the 12th day of October next.

The Cattle Show, Exhibition of Manufactures, and Public Sale, &c. of the Hampshire, Franklin, & Hampden Society on Wednesday October 26, at Northampton.

The Cattle Show, Ploughing Match, and Exhibition of Manufactures, at Topsfield, the 5th of October next.

Remarks on the cultivation of Pastel or Woad by Gen. DEARBORN, intended for this week's paper, are unavoidably deferred to our next. ☞Our friends will please to recollect that three barrels of this seed have been left at this office for gratuitous distribution by the kindness of RICHARD CROWNINSHIELD, Esq. of Danvers.

FARMER'S CALENDAR.

Indian Corn.—It is now nearly or quite time to plant your Indian corn; and though much has been said, we shall venture to add a little more on the topic of its cultivation.

The soils best adapted to the culture of this plant are those which are light and rich in animal or vegetable manure. You may as well undertake to "extract sun-beams from cucumbers," according to Swift's hints to schemers, as to attempt to raise this grain on poor land. No more land should be planted than what is well manured; either by your own hand or by the hand of nature. A soil which has the advantage of the wash of a river, like the Nile of Egypt,or one lately cleared from the forest will produce Indian corn without manure. But the man who is poor, and always means to be poor, will of course, plant this grain on poor land.—This will give him the advantage of cultivating five acres to obtain the same quantity of produce which he might raise on one acre; and as he is lord of the soil, the farther he extends his dominion the better.

Your seed corn was, or ought to have been, gathered last fall, from such stalks as produced two or more ripe ears. And these, if you did what you should have done, you hung up by the husks, in a dry place, secure from frost. But perhaps, you are a young farmer, and did not think of this precaution, in due season. You must, then, make the best of your negligence; and either obtain seed, saved in this way, from a more careful neighbour, or pick the best shaped and brightest ears from your own corn bin. In either case you will please to shell off the grains carefully,so to be sure not to bruise them, and it is generally said to be best to reject those kernels which grow near the ends of the ears, and plant only the perfect and central kernels. A writer, however, in a late No. of the American Farmer states in substance, that those kernels which grow on the tip, or top end of the ear will, other things equal, produce more than either of those which are taken from the butt or central parts.

If your soil is moist, and you plant early, it will not be adviseable to steep your seed-corn, unless you apprehend danger from the depredations of birds or insects. Steeping is apt to weaken the principle of vegetation, but it is sometimes expedient, in order to render the grain unpalatable to crows,blackbirds, squirrels, cut worms, &c. In late planting, especially on dry ground,it may be of use to hasten the growth of the plant. Dr Deane says "some steep their seed. But in general it had better be omitted; for it will occasion it to perish in the ground, if the weather should not prove warm enough to bring it up speedily. If planting a second time should become necessary by means of the destruction of the first seed; or if planting be delayed on any account till the begining of June then it will be proper that the seed should have boiling water poured on it. Let it not steep more than half a minute and be cooled speedily and planted before it dries. The corn will be forwarder in its growth by several days." A writer for the Mass. Agr. Repository for June 1822, an article republished in the New England Farmer vol. I. page 380, states his opinion and confirms it by apparently correct reasoning, that no kind of steeps for seeds of Indian corn or other grain possess any fructifying quality, or power to increase the crop. But as a remedy for diseases such as smut in wheat, and a preservative against birds and insects, steeping in proper liquids is doubtless a specific.

Mr James Graham of New York, in the Transactions of the Agr. Soc. of N. York, states that there is no plan so successful for preserving corn from birds and squirrels as tarring the seeds in the following manner. "Put as much corn as you expect to plant the next day into warm water in the evening; the ensuing morning drain off the water; then pour on as much hot water as will cover it, and immediately throw in tar at the rate of about one pint to a bushel; stir the tar through the corn until the grains appear to be uniformly coated with the tar, then put it into a basket to drain; after the water has run off, throw it into a large tub or trough, and stir among it as much lime (slacked) or gypsum as will adhere to the grain; by which means they will easily separate from each other and may be as conveniently planted as if they had never been tarred." Mr G prefers gypsum to either lime or ashes, as it will not be so likely to injure the fingers in planting, and in equal quantities has more power to promote vegetation.

The precaution of soaking the corn before the application of the tar is highly necessary, as the coat of tar and gypsum would otherwise, especially in a dry season,prevent it from absorbing moisture to produce vegetation. It is important also, in all cases, where corn has been soaked, to plant it as soon as possible after the soaking is completed.

Payson Williams Esq. an intelligent, practical agriculturist of Fitchburgh, Mass. in a communication for this paper, published vol II. page 28 says "the present season, before planting my corn, the seed was soaked in a strong salt petre pickle, (the same my hams were cured in) for about three days. I have made this my practice for several years past as a safe-guard against the attacks of the *wire worm* which, as every farmer knows, are more deadly than any other of the worm tribe, on corn, as they sap at the very foundation, by directly eating into the germ or chit of the seed. It so happened that immediately after planting, a heavy rain of twenty-four hours, laid many parts of the field under water for several days. When the ground became sufficiently dry to pulverize, I prepared to replant, when to my astonishment I discovered the sprouts forcing their way through the crust now formed over them. Had not the seed been soaked in *brine*, putrefaction would have commenced before vegetation could have ensued. The last mentioned circumstance, I consider of sufficient importance to urge the use of brine, both with corn and wheat before sowing. Although the field was full of the *wire worm*, yet in no instance did I detect their ravages on the seed."

We have known the germ of seed corn destroyed, so that it would not vegetate, by being steeped in a *strong* solution of saltpetre. But we cannot say what was the strength of the solution, nor the length of time during which the seed was immersed in the liquor. Common salt,

salt petre, copperas; blue vitriol and arsenic, have all been used and recommended for composing steeps for preserving seeds of Indian corn, wheat &c. from worms. But there is some danger, we apprehend, in the use of those acrid and caustic substances, lest they destroy the principle of vegetation in the seed. We believe that brine, or pickle, which had been used for preserving meat, would prove the most safe, and quite as effectual as any steep which can be employed. Tar, or any other terebinthinate substance is peculiarly offensive to birds and insects and if used with the precautions above mentioned will not injure the seed. Indian poke and refuse tobacco have been likewise recommended as forming good steeps for Indian corn, and, no doubt, any substance which is poisonous or unpleasant to birds or worms will answer that purpose.

If you plant on new sward land, (which may sometimes be expedient when your land is turned over quite flat by the plough, and is of easy culture,) be careful to make your holes for hills quite through the sods. These you will do well to partly fill with manure before you deposit the seed. Dr. Deane observed, "If twenty loads of good manure can be afforded for an acre, it should be spread on the land and ploughed in: If no more than half of that quantity, it will be best to put it in holes. In the former case the corn usually comes up better, suffers less by drought and worms; and the land is in better order after the crop. In the latter case the plants are more assisted in their growth in proportion to the quantity of manure. If the manure be new dung, burying it under the furrows is by far the better method. None but old dung should be put into the holes." It will always be requisite to place about an inch of mould or earth over the manure before the seed is deposited. If you have green manure it will be well to spread it as equally as possible over the whole field, and to put some good compost or well rotten manure into the hill in addition. The manure in the hills will give the plants a good setting out, and the broad cut manure will nourish them the latter part of the season, when the fibrous roots pervade the whole soil.

The time of planting depends on the nature of the soil and the state of the season. The old Indian rule, as a general maxim, is, perhaps, as good as any, viz.—"Plant your corn when the leaves of the white oak are about the size of a mouse's ear." This, generally, happens between the 20th of May and the 1st of June. But in dry soils it may be well to plant a little earlier.

With regard to the mode of planting, the following rule is, we believe, correct. "If the land is rough and strong, and the object is to *make the most of labour*, the better way is to plant in hills; but if the soil is rich and easy to till, and the object is to *make the most of land*, the drill method should be chosen. According to the first method, let the ground be cut into squares, by shoal furrows with a horse-plough, (say half as deep as for common ploughing) from three to four feet apart, according to the kinds of corn to be planted. If nearly a shovel-full of dung is to be put into each hill—the furrowing must be consequently pretty deep. If care is taken in planting, to place the kernels four or five inches a part, four or five stalks can stand in each hill to advantage." Mr Pomeroy in his able essay on Indian corn, published in the "Mass. Ag. Repos. vol. vi. No. 2," says, "I think four stalks together afford support to each other against winds, and are not so apt to send up suckers as when single." But in land easily tilled, and sheltered from winds, more produce can be obtained by the drill method of planting than by planting in hills. But care must be taken not to overstock the grounds according to the method complained of by our correspondent. [See page 315 of this days paper.

In the Mass. Ag. Repository vol. vi. pages 241, 242 we have a statement of a premium crop of Indian corn raised by Hon. Jona. Hunnewell in Newton Mass. in 1820, by which it appears that the ground on which his crop of 111 bushels on an acre were raised "was ploughed in the fall and again ploughed in the spring, furrowed out at a distance of *four feet* leaving each furrow one foot wide. The furrows were well manured with a mixture of *horse dung, lime, ashes, and dock mud.* The seed raised last year was planted in the drill on each furrow, making *three rows* to each furrow. Care was taken to drop the corn as near six inches apart as was possible without wasting time. When the corn was fit for weeding care was taken to thin it out where it was too thick; after weeding it was ashed by spreading unleached ashes through each drill or furrow. An acre of this land, planted in drills, was measured, and the corn cut up, husked, and measured, which produced 222½ bushels of corn in the ear; several bushels of the ears were shelled and measured in the kernel, and in every case it was found that two bushels of ears did produce rather over one in the kernel.—Thus we fairly calculated that we had from 1 acre of ground one hundred and eleven bushels and one peck of corn. The land improved was good with a *deep black soil* followed by a stratum of yellow loam, terminating with a hard pan of clayey gravel at the depth of about two feet. It will be found that by planting in this mode of *three rows to each furrow* there will be more than double the stalks of corn in a rod than in the usual way of planting in hills. Some may object to this mode because they can plough only one way and not cross plough. But it will be found that it takes no more time to hoe the corn in drills than it will to do the *cross ploughing*, and it requires but one weeding and one hoeing. The third time of ploughing and hoeing is saved."

The seed of this corn was presented to Mr Hunewell by Samuel Blagge Esq. of Boston, who had it of William Jarvis Esq. of Weathersfield, Vermont. It is said to be an early and productive sort, and probably its general culture would be of service to the agricultural interest. It will be perceived that the distance between the rows in Mr Hunnewell's premium was four feet; but in the experiment mentioned by our correspondent, [see page 314 of this day's paper] the distance was but 2 feet 9 inches; and the corn in the rows was set at the same distance in both cases. The nearness of the rows was probably the cause of the failure in the experiment stated by our correspondent.

*** P. J. HOLLAND, Esq. Editor of the Arcadian Recorder, has been appointed Agent for the New England Farmer, for Halifax and its vicinity, and is authorized to receive moneys and subscriptions on our behalf.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

The late President, Colonel Monroe, offers at publick sale on the first Monday in June next, his Albemarle estate in Virginia of 3500 acres; also another tract of land of 700 acres, near Milton. Applicants are requested to address themselves directly to him.

The London papers mention that Gen. Lafayette has transmitted to England $3000 for the relief of the French, $900 to the Spanish, and $200 to the Italian exiles there.

Captain Symmes has been invited by Count Romanzoff, of Russia, to join a North Pole expedition which the Count is projecting; the Captain has accepted the invitation under certain conditions.

The Roxbury Gazette states that a New Rope Manufactory has recently been established in North Hampton street, in which one hundred and twelve persons are employed. The expense of this establishment is estimated at $5000.

A few days since, the books for subscription to the New York Water Works Company, were opened in that city, at the Franklin Bank, and by 3 o'clock upwards of NINE MILLIONS of DOLLARS were subscribed. The capital of the Company is only two millions.

Canals in South Carolina.—We understand, says the South Carolina State Gazette of the 26th ult. that all the canals and locks on the Saluda are now finished and open for use. The navigation from Charleston up Cooper's river, through the Santee Canal, up the Santee and Congaree rivers, through the Columbia canal into Broad river, and through the Saluda canal from Broad to Saluda river, and up that river thro' Drehr's and Lotick's canals to cambridge, is thus open to the trade of the country. The whole distance of this navigation is at least 300 miles by water, and more than 200 by the nearest land rout. It passes five canals, and 28 locks, which overcome a fall of 217 feet.

Arrangements are made by the British government for carrying 2000 Irish emigrants to Canada.

Fires. On the 18th inst. the dwelling-house, two barns, and a number of out-buildings, belonging to the Widow Sarah Hoit, of Sandwich, N H were destroyed by fire; 4 oxen, 23 sheep, a number of calves, and about 150 bushels of corn were consumed. The fire is believed to have originated from a coal, which was dropped by boys, who were at play with some powder.—On the evening of the same day, the dwelling-house of Mr Bartholomew Gale, of Gilmantown, N. H. was consumed by fire with nearly all its contents.—Two stores in Pearl-street. N. Y. have lately been burnt, and several ware-houses in Albany.—The dwelling-house and tavern of Mr Daniel Thomas, about a mile from Ballaston Springs, was destroyed by fire on the 3d inst.—A building in Newbury-port, occupied as a Painter's shop was consumed on the 21st inst.—The dwelling-house of Mr Daniel Wiley in South Reading was burnt on the night of the 23d inst.—A fire-proof store in New Bedford, was damaged to the amount of $1000 by fire on the 20th inst.—On the 16th inst. a tavern and store in Hartford Vt. belonging to Mr George Udal were destroyed by fire—Loss estimated at $4000.—The White Lead Works of Mr G. W. Murray, upper end of Broad way, N. Y. were destroyed by fire on the 14th inst.—On the 13th inst. two dwelling-houses were burnt in Greenwich village, N. Y.—In Windsor Vt. a two story building, occupied as a saddler's shop, and bookstore were much injured by fire.—On the 10th inst. the house of Mr John Harrison, of Maccon, in Nova Scotia was destroyed by fire, and himself and three children were burnt in it.—A woolen factory in Jaffrey N. H. was consumed by fire on the 17th inst. together with all the machinery and stock; loss 3 or $4000—On the following morning a blacksmith's shop and trip-hammer works, situated within 50 rods of the above factory were destroyed by fire. In both instances, the fire broke out at 2 o'clock in the morning—Three dwelling-houses were totally burnt to the ground at Tomhirstville, Staten Island, N. Y.

PASTURE WANTED—Wanted to hire for a month or six weeks, to commence about 15th May next, a piece of pasture land in a dry situation, in or near Brookline, sufficient for a flock of about 150 sheep. A level tract of high land, with some shade, and if possible a stream of water running through it, would be preferred. Apply at the office of the New England Farmer.

MISCELLANIES.

[The philosophic COWLEY entertained a high opinion of this art, and has celebrated, in some of his best strains, the wonderful transformations which it produces.]

We nowhere art do so triumphant see,
As when it grafts or buds the tree.
In other things we count it to excel
If it a docile scholar can appear
To nature, and but imitate her well;
It overrules, and is her master here.
It imitates her Maker's power divine.
And changes her sometimes, and sometimes does refine.

It does, like grace, the fallen tree restore
To its best state of paradise before.
Who would not joy to see his conquering hand
O'er all the vegetable world extend command!
And the wild giants of the wood receive
What laws he's pleased to give?
He bids the ill natured crab produce
The gentler apple's winy juice;
The golden fruit that worthy is
Of Galatea's purple kiss.
He does the savage hawthorn teach
To bear the medlar and the pear;
He bids the rustic plum to rear
A noble trunk and be a peach.
Even Daphne's coyness he does mock,
Though she refused Apollo's suit,
Even she, that chaste and virgin tree,
Now wonders at herself to see
That she's a mother made, and blushes in her fruit.

The following song written by HENRY J. FINN, Esq. was sung by him at the late celebration at Concord.

TUNE—"*Scots wha hae*," &c.

The night was hushed, the moonlight gleam
Lay sleeping on the gentle stream,
As silent as an infant's dream
Upon its parent's breast;

And *Concord* slumber'd, safe from care,
But mists were in the midnight air,
As though the heavens were weeping there,
O'er briefly broken rest.

When morning's breath came o'er the vale,
War's voice had mingled with the gale,
And hearts were sad, and cheeks were pale,
To hear the distant drum.

The mother clasp'd her babe, and fled,
The maiden, tears of terror shed;
As onward moved the martial tread,
"The cry was still—they come!"

More loud and long, the trumpet's sound,
Sent forth its shrill alarms around,
And foes were on the battle ground!
What chains can bind the brave?

As Ocean's mountain-billows meet—
Against the rock in madness beat,
Then rush in foaming, fierce retreat,
Back roll'd the warrior wave!

The foe of Freedom sternly stood,
In pride, upon the bridge of blood—
But death was floating in the flood;
The tomb of Tyranny.

Our vollies echo through the sky.
Hark! hark! What glory's in the cry,
For Freemen shout, "they fly! they fly!
The land we love is free!"

RULES FOR MOTHERS AND HOUSE-WIVES.

Some people in dressing an infant seem in such haste as to toss him in a way that must fatigue and harass him. The most tender deliberation should be observed. Every one knows that a kid, a lamb, a calf, or even a puppy or a kitten, cannot thrive if squeezed or tumbled about. An infant is certainly more easily hurt. But in addition to this horrid dressing, his clothes are often so tight, that he frets and roars though he cannot give words to his complaints. Pins should never be used in an infant's clothes; and every thing should be so loosely tied, that one might get two fingers between it and the part where it is fixed. Bandages round the head should be strictly forbidden. Many instances of idiotism, fits, and deformity, are owing to tight bandages. In laying a child to sleep, he should be laid upon the right side oftener than upon the left; but twice, in the four and twenty hours at least he should be changed to the left side.—Laying him on his back when he is awake, is enough of that posture, in which he can alone move his legs and arms with freedom. Infants are sometimes very restless at night; and it is generally owing either to cramming them with a heavy supper, tight night clothes or being overheated by too many blankets. It may also proceed from putting them to sleep too early. He should be kept awake until the family are going to rest, and the house free from noise. Undressing and bathing him will weary and dispose him to sleep, and universal stillness will promote it. Never let anything but the prescription of a physician in sickness, tempt you to give him wine, spirits, or any drug to make him sleep. Milk and water, whey, or thin gruel is the only fit liquor for little ones, even when they can run about. The more simple and light their diet, the more they will thrive. Such food will keep their body regular, and they cannot be long well if you neglect that essential point.

When opening medicine must be given to supply the defect of nature, a little manna or magnesia is safest. A careful and diligent mother will attend to the particulars, keeping all her children under her own eye, and giving them lessons of more value than gold or jewels, in the time that lazy and gadding gossips are looking at their fingers, or giving and hearing news.

Aphorisms.—The hardest trial of the heart is whether it can bear a rival's failure without triumph.

Thoroughly to *try* a man's patience, he must have the labour of years consumed before his eyes in a moment; thoroughly to *prove* it, he must instantly begin to renew his labour.

The woman of sensibility, who preserves serenity and good temper amidst the insults of a faithless husband, wants nothing of an angel but immortality.

The man who, improving in skill or knowledge, improves also in modesty, has an undeniable claim to greatness of mind.

He, whose first emotion on the view of an excellent production is to undervalue it, will never have one of his own to show.

Nothing is such an obstacle to the production of excellence, as the power of producing what is pretty good with ease and rapidity.

Would a man of rank estimate his real dignity, let him think of that state in which all rank is abolished.—*Dr. Aiken.*

A great increase in the quantity of *rain* has been remarked in England. The same has been noted throughout the South of France, where, according to a scientific observer, not only the quantity of rain but the annual number of rainy and cloudy days is continually increasing.

The custom of dressing the graves of the dead with flowers, is prevalent throughout all Germany.—Every little mound resembles a flower bed, the weeds are carefully pulled up, and daisies, evergreens and violets, are planted in this consecrated earth. On the centre of one, the grave of a daughter, was seen amidst the blossoms, a solitary lily; it was tied to a stick to support its languishing head from the violence of the wind. Need we say after this that this delicate tribute to the memory of a child was reared by the hands of the mother?

There is some danger of our becoming a superstitious people.—We are looking in the atmosphere for unusual birds, and to the heavens for strange appearances; and we are in a good measure gratified. Thus, at New-York, when Gen. La Fayette entered the harbor, a magnificent rainbow illuminated the fortress *La Fayette*. When Mr Monroe was inaugurated, a mammoth Eagle flew over the capitol. When Mr. Adams was assuming the office of President, four Eagles hovered over the national senate house.—And one had previously looked down from the clouds, on the affecting ceremony of Gen. La Fayette's visit to the tomb of the illustrious Washington. A star, at Mid-day, cast its chaste brilliance on the rising cenotaph of De Kalb, at Camden. And the sun, which had remained behind the clouds on the day of Gen. La Fayette's entree into Charleston, shone forth with delightful brilliancy, just as he lit from his carriage at the City Hall, to receive the Intendant's welcome. These are grateful incidents, they are all of them well attested; but whether they intimate any peculiar relation between things above and things below, we leave to the decision of Augurs and Astrologers.—

Charleston Courier.

BELLFOUNDER,

The Wonderful Norfolk Trotter, imported July 1822, from England,

WILL STAND THIS SEASON, 1825,

At Twenty Dollars, and One Dollar the Groom. The money to be paid to the Groom at Covering.

THIS celebrated Horse is a bright bay, with black legs, standing 15 hands high; his superior blood, symmetry and action excel those of every other trotting Stallion. He is allowed by the best Judges in Norfolk to be the fastest and best bred Horse ever sent out of that County. He has proved himself a sure foal getter, and his Stock for size and substance are not to be surpassed; they are selling at the highest prices of any Horses in Norfolk.

BELLFOUNDER was got by that well known, fast and high formed Trotter, OLD BELLFOUNDER, out of Velocity, which trotted on the Norwich road, in 1806, *Sixteen Miles* in one hour, and though she broke fifteen times into a gallop, *and as often turned round*, won her match. In 1808 she trotted *Twenty eight miles* in one hour and forty seven minutes, and has also done many other great performances against time.

BELLFOUNDER, at five years old, trotted *Two miles* in six minutes, and in the following year was matched for 200 guineas, to trot *Nine miles* in thirty minutes, and he won easily by thirty two seconds. His owner shortly after *challenged* to perform with him *Seventeen miles and a half* in one hour, *but it was not accepted*. He has since never been saddled or matched.

OLD BELLFOUNDER was a true descendant from the original blood of the *Fireaways*, which breed of Horses stand unrivalled, either in this or any other nation.

BELLFOUNDER is strongly recommended to the public by the subscriber, as combining more useful properties than any other Horse in America, and will stand, during the season, at his stable in Charlestown, where all inquiries, post paid, will be attended to.

BELLFOUNDER's foals thus far have proved fully satisfactory, showing extraordinary action.

SAMUEL JAQUES, JR.

Charlestown, Mass. March 11, 1825.

The FARMER is published every Friday, by J. B. RUSSELL, at $2.50 per annum, in advance.